



DATE: October 18, 2016

TO: Chairs Novotny and Thurston and Members of the Streetscape Taskforce

FROM: Carly Aubrey, AICP, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Sandwich Boards

The following are the current City of Falls Church sign code regulations pertaining to sandwich and sidewalk signs. These types of signs are reviewed administratively by the City's Zoning Division.

Sec. 48-1239. - Types of signs.

Signs in this article are classified as the following types:

- (9) *Sandwich.* Any sign which is constructed of durable materials, which has two identical, flat faces, and which is designed to be displayed on the ground. For the purposes of this section, a sandwich sign shall not be considered a portable sign or a temporary sign.
- (10) *Sidewalk sign.* Any sign which is constructed of durable materials, which has one or two flat faces, and which is designed to be displayed on the ground. For the purpose of this section, a sidewalk sign shall not be considered a temporary sign.

Sec. 48-1265. - B-1, B-2, B-3 and M districts.

Signs permitted in R districts shall also be permitted. See section 48-1269 for maximum permitted aggregate sign area, and special provisions for increased sign area and maximum permitted number of sign information items for each sign.

- (6) Sandwich signs. One sandwich sign shall be permitted for each ground floor business for which a freestanding sign is not permitted. Each sign shall be professionally designed and constructed and continually maintained.
 - a. Area and dimensions. The area of each face of the sign shall not exceed ten square feet. The dimensions of each face shall not exceed 2½ feet in width or four feet in height. No extensions or projections shall be permitted.
 - b. Location. The location of a sandwich sign shall be designated in the permit. Such sign may be located no less than five feet from a side lot line and 15 feet from the front of the building. Such sign may be located in a public right-of-way, provided at least four feet of clear sidewalk width is maintained. No such signs shall be located in a vehicle use area or in a vision clearance area.
 - c. Sign information items. Sign information items shall be permanently inscribed on both faces of the sign and shall not be changed unless provided for in the permit.
 - d. Hours of display. A sandwich sign shall be displayed only when the business is open.

- e. Stability. A sandwich sign shall be weighted or otherwise secured to reduce susceptibility to winds.
- f. Permits subject to revocation. In addition to other applicable provisions concerning permit revocation, the permit for a sandwich sign located in a public right-of-way may be permanently or temporarily revoked without notice, if the city manager or designee finds that the sign is a public nuisance or if the sign is in the way of city operations or if the sign is not properly maintained.